

General Advice:

1. Remember to be certain that motorists can see you. Dress “defensively”. If walking at night, wear something retroreflective on your clothing or shoes or just carry a flashlight.
2. Always cross in the designated areas. Jaywalking is against the law.
3. Stop at the curb, edge of the road, corner or parked vehicle before proceeding to cross.
4. Look left-right-left, and if there is a gap in traffic begin to cross.
5. ALWAYS cross at designated crosswalks when available.
6. On roads without sidewalks, walk on the left side of the road, facing the traffic.
7. Watch out for cars backing out of parking spaces and driveways.
8. Never walk along or attempt to cross expressways, interstate highways or turnpikes.
9. About 33% of all pedestrians killed in traffic crashes have a blood alcohol content (BAC) of 0.1 or greater; so limit your alcohol consumption.
10. Always wait until the bus leaves the bus stop before trying to cross the street. Never cross in front of a public bus.
11. Stay on the sidewalk until the bus leaves the bus stop. Always check for traffic in all directions, especially vehicles turning “Right on Red”.

Things to remember:

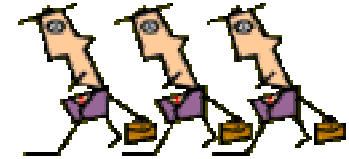
If possible, avoid the Work Zone Areas.

Don't ever take a shortcut across railroad tracks. Cross only at crossings.

For more information contact:

DC Department of Transportation
Pedestrian Safety and Accessibility Program
PedSafe
2000 14th Street, N.W. 7th Floor
Washington, DC 20009
202-671-2710

PedSafe



People walk for many reasons: to go to a neighbor's house, to run errands, to go to school, or to get to a business meeting. People also walk for recreation, health benefits or just for the enjoyment of being outside. Some walk to get to public transportation.

PedSafe is the program created by DDOT to address pedestrian safety and accessibility issues.

The importance of pedestrian travel is to provide mobility, reduce congestion, improve environmental quality, and promote public health. This mode of transportation has received increasing attention in recent years as the most valid alternative of non-motorized travel.

★ ★ ★ Mayor Anthony A. Williams
Dan Tangherlini Department of Transportation
Problem:

d. Washington, D.C. has become America's third most congested city. The

weekday influx of vehicles coming to the city is a big problem.

According to NHTSA, in the year 2000, 4,739 pedestrians were killed in a traffic crash in the U.S., almost 13 persons every day! A pedestrian is injured in a traffic crash every 7 minutes and is killed in a traffic crash every 111 minutes.

Strategy:

I. Networking and Coalition Building

We have developed a **Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)**, which will be the tool to seek the assistance of other agencies to ensure the safety and accessibility of pedestrians. These agencies are:

- Department of Transportation
- DMV
- Department of Health
- Department of Public Schools
- WMATA
- Council of Governments
- MPD
- FHWA– District Office
- Department of Parks and Recreation
- U.S. Park Service

The most important goal of this network is to work together to alleviate the pedestrian crashes and accessibility problems that exist in our City.

II. Education:



PedSafe is addressing educational issues related to pedestrian safety and accessibility. In addition, our program will provide thorough dissemination of information on laws and regulations related to pedestrian safety and accessibility.

Some issues that will be covered by the educational campaign are:

- ✓ Participate in the “**International Walk to School Day**”
- ✓ Participate in community activities
- ✓ Provide educational material in English and Spanish
- ✓ Examine pedestrian programs in other jurisdictions and emulate their successes if applicable in DC
- ✓ Prepare a toolkit of resources and lessons for schools
- ✓ Develop a Safety Issues Mobile Display: ‘**Safety City**’
- ✓ Encourage the use of public transportation

III. Engineering, Planning and Design:



- ✓ Target high-risk locations
- ✓ Improve data collection, analysis and problem identification
- ✓ Aggressively deploy the necessary engineering countermeasures

- ✓ Integrate pedestrian accommodation issues into the planning, design and approval process
- ✓ Advocate for the construction of light rail

IV. Enforcement and Regulation:

- ✓ Target and protect the pedestrian right-of-way
- ✓ Enforce existing laws
- ✓ Review existing laws and advocate for stiffer penalties, especially speeding in school areas
- ✓ Professional training and education
- ✓ Advocate for innovative policing
- ✓ Review Right Turn On Red and Left Turn regulations
- ✓ Empower pedestrians to make streets safer to cross
- ✓ Enforce jaywalking laws and increase the fines



V. Community Input:

One of the most important tools is the contribution of the community in helping us identify the problems currently existing in our community.